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NONFERROUS METAL PLANTS REPORT PROGRESS

URAL COPPER SMELTER INCREASES EFFICIENCY -- Izvestiya, No 82, 8 Apr 49

The Karabash Copper Smelter in the South Urals (director, P. Vlasov) has 2 million rubles to its credit in the State Savings Bank. During January-February 1949, the plant released 3,680,000 rubles from turnover funds and accelerated the turnover of working capital by 15 days.

Modernization, mechanization, and improved production methods have made it possible to cut in half the time required for smelting black copper. At the same time, the quality of the product has improved. In February, the plant discontinued the output of Grade 5 black copper (lowest grade) and is increasing the smelting of Grade 2 copper (highest grade).

Until recently, tailings from the concentration plant were dumped into the marsh. A group of workers, however, recently repaired an old piece of equipment which will enable them to obtain pyrite concentrate from the tailings. The pyrite concentrate is needed by the paper industry and will bring the plant at least 2 million rubles of additional income.

The reverberatory furnace, which formerly operated on mazut, has been switched to coal tar, a local fuel, which costs one fourth as much as mazut.

ZINC PLANT FULFILLS PLAN -- Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, No 36, 22 Feb 49

Workers of the zinc plant in Ust'-Kamenogorsk, Kazakh SSR, have completed the plan for the first 2 months of 1949.

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